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ADP010806

TITLE: Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle [TUAV].  
Reconnaissance Support to Small Scale  
Contingencies [SSC]

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This paper is part of the following report:

TITLE: 12th Annual NDIA SO/LIC Symposium &  
Exhibition, 12-14 Feb 2001, Arlington VA. NDIA  
Event #1880

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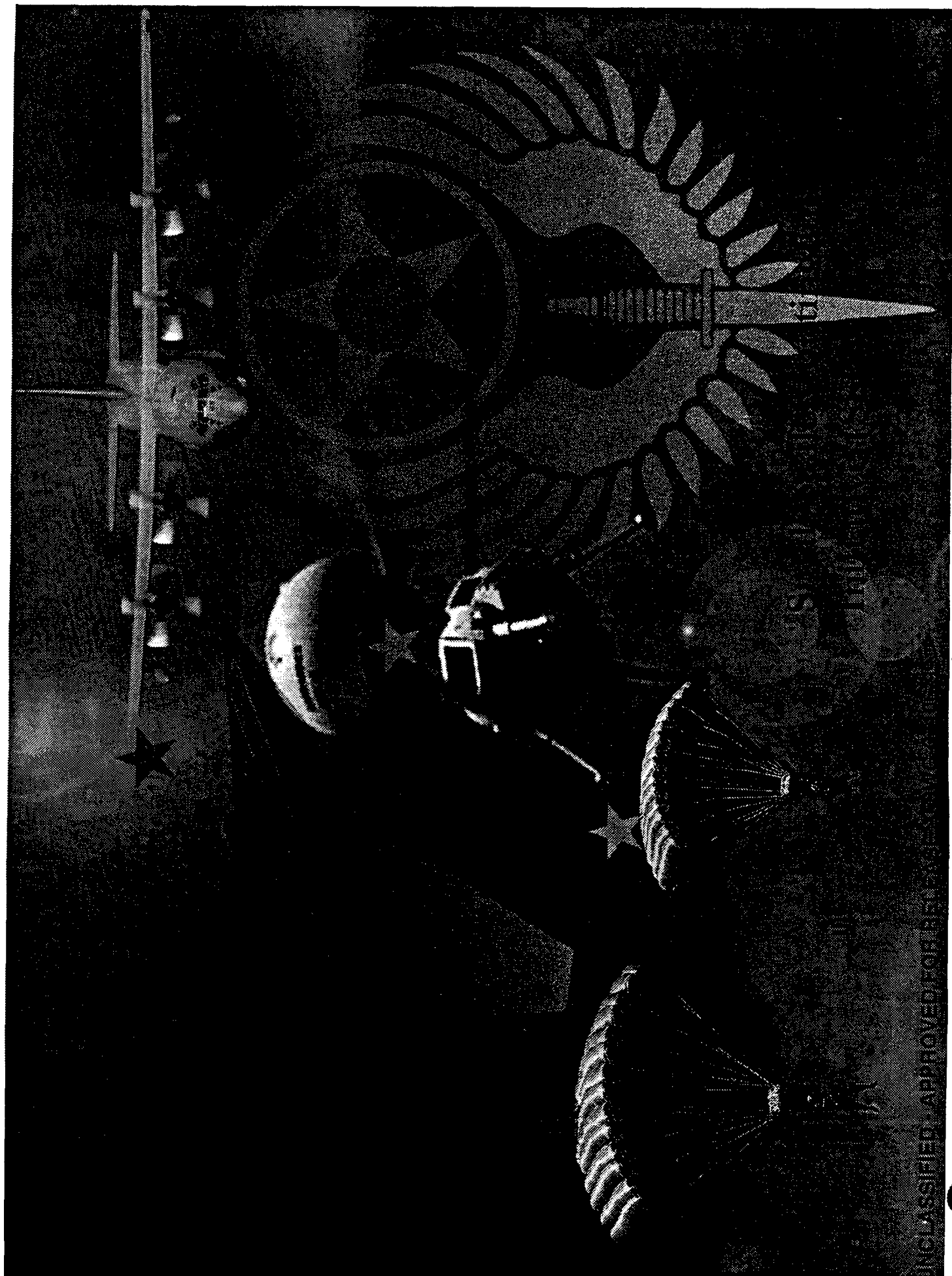
**TACTICAL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (TUAV)**

**RECONNAISSANCE SUPPORT TO  
SMALL SCALE CONTINGENCIES (SSC)**

**AIR FORCE BATTLELAB KENNY CLASS INITIATIVE (Maj Steve Bishop)  
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND**

*Lt Col Janice Morrow*

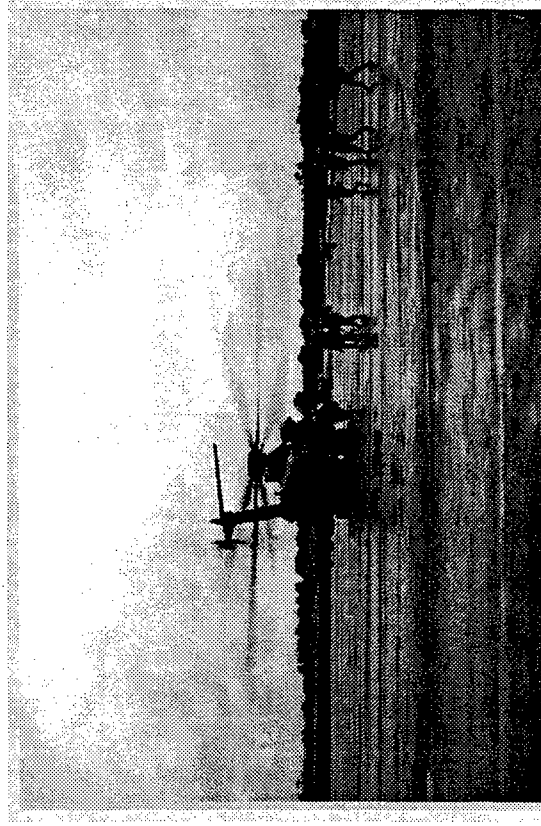
*TSgt Christopher Crutchfield*



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# BACKGROUND



Special Forces Loading at Libreville, Gabon

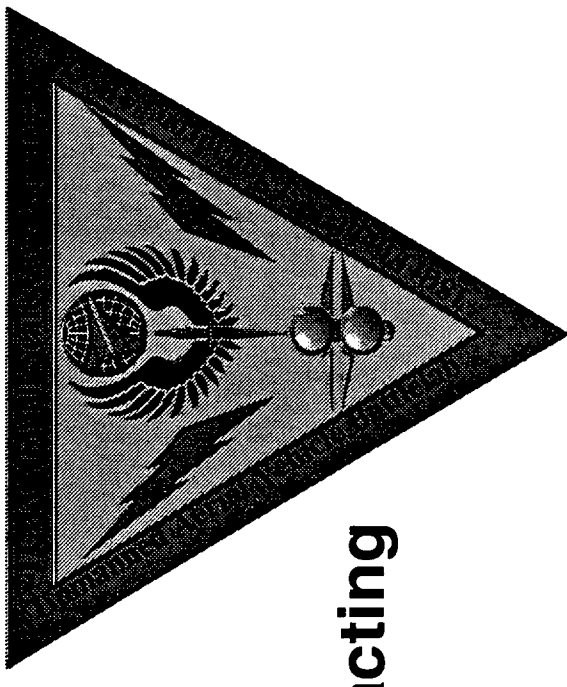
- Demonstrated shortfalls in several theaters
- NEOs
  - Liberia, CAR, Congo, Albania, Haiti
- HUMROS
  - Rwanda, Burundi, Congo, Zaire,
- Poor tactical reconnaissance coverage
- Need for a small footprint and transportable vehicle
- Request from EUCOM to look at problem

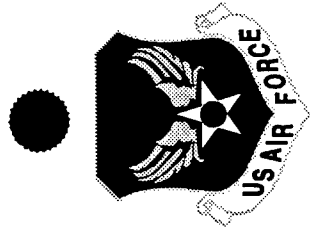


# PLAYERS

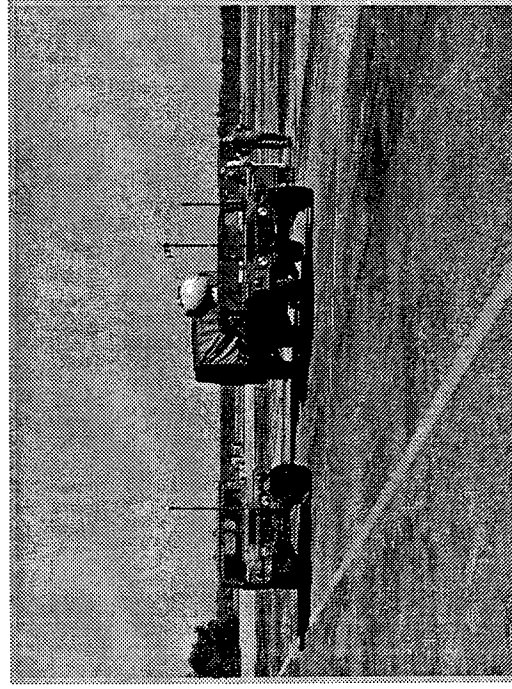
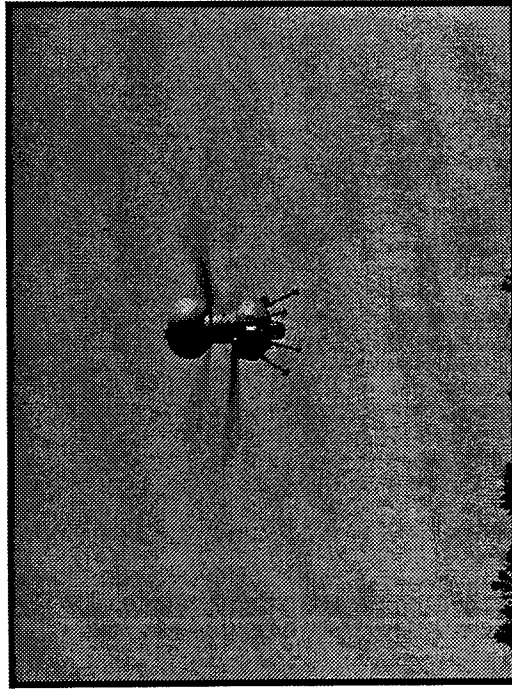


- UAV Battlelab, ISR Division
- HQ AFSOC/XPPD
- 18th FLTS
- 720 Special Tactics Group
- 23 Special Tactics Squadron
- Eglin AFB Special Projects/Contracting
- Bombardier Aerospace, U.S.A.
- L3 Communications
- FLIR Systems





# CL-327 GUARDIAN



- **Endurance**
  - 6.25 hours
  - Range 100km
- **Size:**
  - 770 lbs
  - 13.1 feet rotor diameter
  - 6 feet in height
- **Payload**
  - EO/IR
  - 220 lbs
- **Speed**
  - Hover to 85kts dash



# MISSION STATEMENT



**Demonstrate the military worth of using a Tactical UAV (TUAV) to pass real-time video directly to AF Special Operations air and ground units in simulated Small Scale Contingency (SSC) environment.**



# OBJECTIVES



- **Assess VTOL UAVs overall operational suitability to support SOF missions by passing real-time video to mobile AFSOC STS, Joint Survey and Assessment Teams**
- **Assess VTOL UAVs overall operational suitability to support SOF missions by passing real-time video to airborne AC-130 gunship orbiting 20 NM from UAV**





# METHODOLOGY



- Determine UAV ability to pass real-time video to STS teams in the field
- Rate usability of video information provided to STS teams.
- Determine UAV ability to pass real-time video to AC-130H aircraft
- Rate usability of video information provided to AC-130H aircrews
- Determine ability to transport UAV and associated equipment on C-130



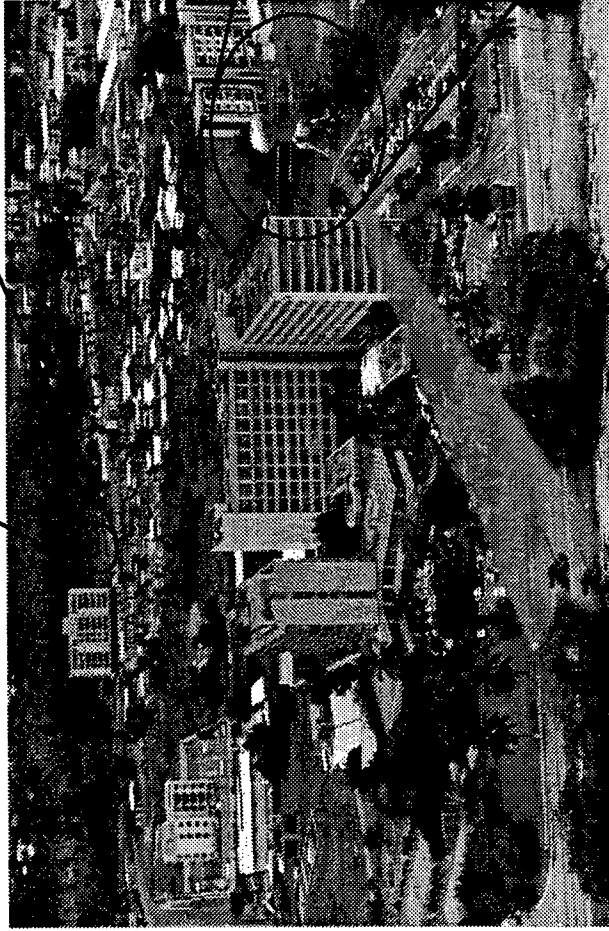
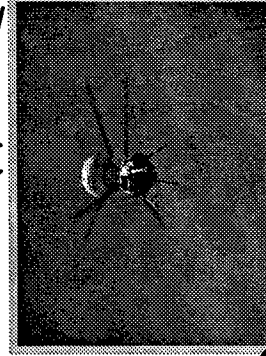
**3. UAV simultaneously passes Video to ground units and they adjust mission accordingly based on situation**



**2. UAV Passes Video to AC-130H monitoring situation 20 NM out of harms way**



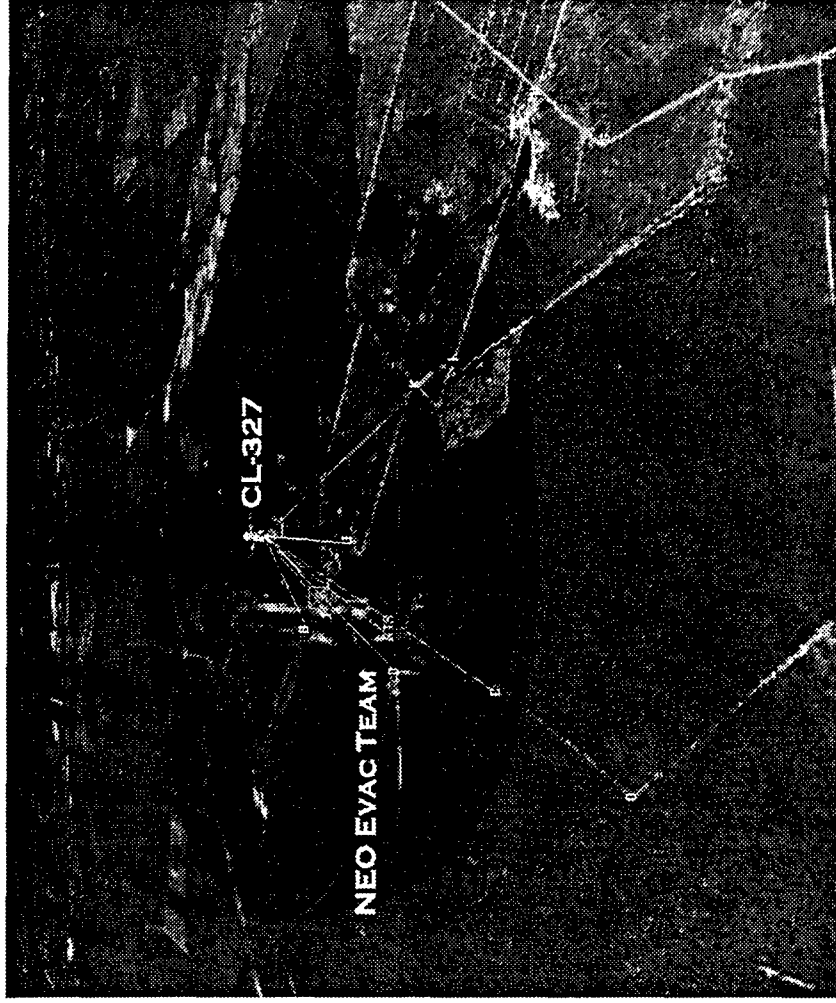
**1. UAV on station and gathers Video on the situation prior to mission execution**



## **Non Combatant Evacuation Scenario Humanitarian Relief Operation Scenario**



# SSC DEMONSTRATION NEO SCENARIO



- Use UAV to
  - ➡ Pass real-time video to AC-130H
  - ➡ Assist STS team in avoidance of threat
  - ➡ Assist STS Team in prosecution of hostile targets in conjunction with AC-130H
  - ➡ Determine best evacuation route

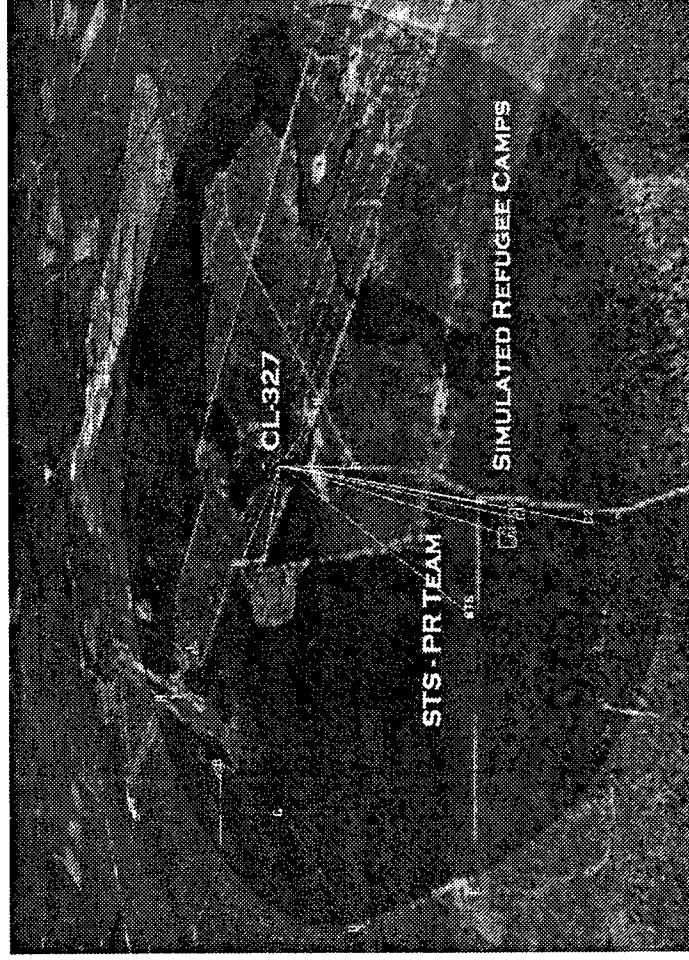


# SSC DEMONSTRATION HUMRO SCENARIO



- Use UAV to

- Pass real-time video to AC-130H
- Assist STS team in avoidance of threat
- Assist STS Team in prosecution of hostile targets in conjunction with AC-130H
- Determine best evacuation route
- Identify location of simulated Refugee Camps
- Determine if camps are occupied and locate migration of refugees





# RESULTS

## Technical:

- UAV Video to AC-130..... ☐
- UAV Video to AC-130 - 20 NM..... ☒
- UAV Video to STS ..... ☐

## Scenarios:

- NEO Scenario..... ☐
- HUMRO Scenario..... ☐
- Deployability..... ☐

☐ Success   ☐ Partial Success   ☒ Unsuccessful



# CONCLUSIONS



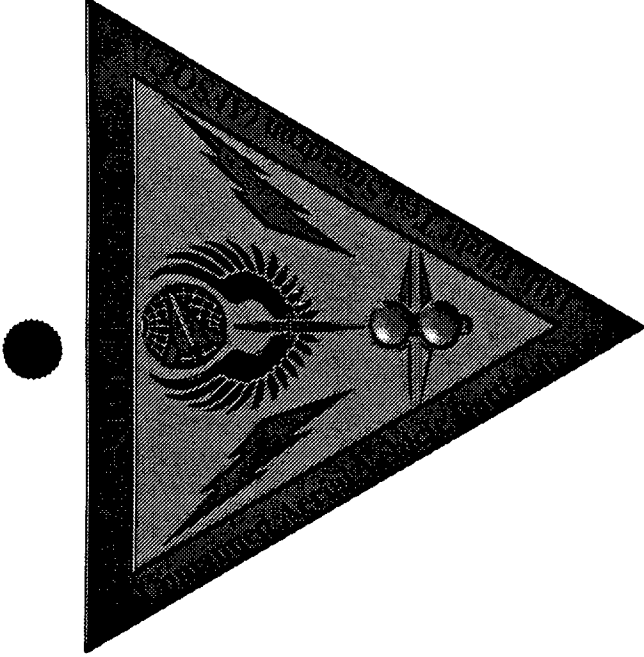
- UAVB/18th FLTS proved the military utility and concept that a VTOL UAVs can enhance situational awareness
- Use of UAV and supporting equipment would be effective in improving SOF mission capability
- VTOL UAVs show potential to support theater CINCs in an SSC environment



# RECOMMENDATIONS



- **Integrate UAVs to support unique SOF requirements.**
- **Refine and formalize requirements and conops for UAVs supporting SOF missions.**
- **Pursue acquisition of a capability to receiving real-time video from existing UAVs directly to AF SOF air and ground forces as well as to Security Forces.**



# QUESTIONS ?

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